

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 099156

EXDIS DELIVER OPENING OF BUSINESS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, GR, US

SUBJECT: US-GREEK BASE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: ATHENS 3243

FROM UNDERSECRETARY SISCO

1. WE ARE PLEASED THAT THE GREEKS HAVE AGREED TO DEFER CONSIDERATION OF THEIR REQUEST ON TATOI UNTIL LATER. YOU MAY INFORM CALOGERAS THAT RELOCATION OF ATO FACILITY AT TATOI WILL REQUIRE HIGH-LEVEL CONSIDERATION HERE AND THAT TECHNICAL STUDIES TO DETERMINE FEASIBILITY AND COST WILL HAVE TO BE UNDERTAKEN. WE WILL UNDERTAKE THESE PREPARATIONS AND BE READY TO ADDRESS THE ATO ISSUE AT THIRD

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NEGOTIATING ROUND.

2. WITH THE TATOI QUESTION DEFERRED, WE BELIEVE THAT OUR PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVES FOR THIS ROUND HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED, I.E., THE GREEKS HAVE AGREED TO ALLOW US TO RETAIN OUR ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES AT HELLENIKON; AND IN TURN WE HAVE AGREED TO PHASE OUT HOMEPORTING IN GREECE. THE DETAILS ON IMPLEMENTING BOTH DECISIONS, INCLUDING THE U.S. NAVY'S SUBSEQUENT USE OF THE ELEFSIS PIER, CAN BE WORKED OUT IN FUTURE TALKS.

3. WE ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE DRAFT COMMUNIQUE THAT YOU AND THE GREEK SIDE AGREED UPON IN THE APRIL 28 PLENARY, WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES. (A) AFTER SENTENCE ONE ADD QUOTE: THE TALKS PROCEEDED IN A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION WITH A VIEW TO REACHING AGREEMENT OF , BENEFIT TO BOTH SIDES. UNQUOTE. (B) ADD QUOTE AND UNQUOTE AFTER ELEFSIS AND BEFORE THE US BASE AT HELLENIKON, THEREBY CLEARLY INDICATING BOTH DECISIONS WERE AT GREEK REQUEST. (C) CHANGE SENTENCE BEGINNING QUOTE CERTAIN US FACILITIES UNQUOTE TO READ QUOTE CERTAIN US FACILITIES WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO GREEK DEFENSE NEEDS UNQUOTE. (D) CHANGE NEXT TO LAST SENTENCE TO READ QUOTE THE INSTALLATIONS WHERE US FACILITIES REMAIN WILL BE PLACED UNDER GREEK COMMANDERS. YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO APPROVE ISSUANCE OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE TOMORROW, APRIL 29.

4. AS MATTER OF COURTESY, WE ARE INFORMING CERTAIN MEMBERS OF CONGRESS OF CONTENTS OF COMMUNIQUE, AND WE SHALL BE PREPARING GUIDANCE FOR POSSIBLE PRESS INQUIRIES. WE WOULD WELCOME ANY SUGGESTIONS YOU HAVE ON THEMES TO STRESS TO PRESS. KISSINGER

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